

## The Lawyer Crabbed the Spiel



## -By Louis A. Dougher

There is a decidedly intimate connection between the major and the minor leagues which the general public understands but slightly. Indeed, there are some major league magnates who are inclined to scoff at the "bush leagues." Therefore, each winter, especially during the past five or six years, the public has been treated to much heated discussion regarding the future of the minor leagues.

Without minor leagues there would be no majors. Every baseball fan knows that, but it took the war to bring it home in all its truth to the millions of Americans. When the various leagues suspended last year, all over the country, little heed was taken. So many more players were thrown on the market to be snapped up for little or nothing, that's about the way most major leaguers regarded the situation.

But along came the draft. Most of those minor league players have been called to the colors, and with the second draft threatening the majors, no capable players are to be found. Now the shoe is on the other foot. The major leaguers are in a desperate connection between themselves and the little fellows out in the tall grass.

The ideal training place for the future major league player is in the bushes. There he should be taught the fundamentals of the game and given every opportunity of perfecting himself as fast as he can, climbing up the ladder with his increased knowledge and skill. Few major league clubs have either the time or the opportunity for training youngsters. This is the why the amateur can send back for more experience.

But, unless there are minor leagues to which they may go, where are they to receive this experience?

One radical change in relation to the basketball court and several minor code modifications are noted in the 1917-1918 official basketball rules just off the press.

The basketball committee composed of college Y. M. C. A. and A. A. U. officials, is headed by Dr. Joseph E. Raycroft, of Princeton University, who is in Washington on war work in connection with recreation activities for the army.

**Only Important Change.**

The one important modification of the playing code has to do with the courts itself. A new end boundary line has been provided. The plane of the backboard which holds the basket no longer marks the boundary line. The entire backboard is within bounds, and on the floor the player has an end alleyway of two feet under the basket.

The change is inexpensive, but is designed to further open up the play. Where the end boundary line is a wall this change cannot apply.

Neither shall a player pushed by one of the opposing team be considered as running with the ball."

**Dribbling Defined.**

The question of when a dribble starts is still a point of difficulty occasionally.

The dribble starts when a player, having gained possession of the ball in any way, except by recovery of his own dribble, throws, rolls, bounces or bounces the ball and touches it again before it is touched by another player. Therefore the dribble does not actually begin until the ball has left the player's possession and been touched by him again.

It is to be understood also that a player who judges the ball is in an attempt to gain possession of it is to be considered as having dribbled, i. e., he may not legally start a dribble after having secured the ball in the way outlined above.

**G. W. U. GIRLS WILL HOLD INDOOR TRACK AFFAIR**

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—"I am through, that's all. I am not stringing along with a Class AA League on a Class B basis," says Ed Barrow, in explaining his resignation as president of the International League, to take effect February 12, the day set for the next meeting of the organization.

"I hardly think the International League will open next season," continued Barrow bitterly. "So far, only Toronto and Baltimore are will-

**GOODACRE WILL MEET  
LOWELL IN TOURNEY**

"Charles Goodacre" will meet E. B. Lowell in the pocket billiard tournament at Sherman's tonight. In last night's engagement A. M. Bissell defeated "Mac" Shandley by 200 to 25.

## HARRY THOMPSON WORKS OFTEN FOR LARRY LAJOIE

The young southpaw allowed 289 hits, gave 88 bases on ball and

**BAUM'S RESTAURANT**  
320 W. Saratoga St.

Manager Griffith today lodged a protest against "Brick" Owens' decision calling Schnaefer out at the

**FRANK KRAMER A VICTOR.** NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Frank Kramer, veteran bicycle star, today had regained some of his former prestige as a result

**PENN GETS BIG MEET.** PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—The annual track and field championship of the Intercollegiate A. A. A. has

**Matt. 18c GARDEN Eve 18c**  
Today Last Time  
**MARY MILES MINTER IN**

PRICES, \$2.50, \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00.  
Boxes, \$50.00.

Tickets on sale at Mrs. Green's

G. Streeta/

TURKISH MAIDENS